

## REVENUE DEPARTMENT[701]

### Notice of Intended Action

**Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”**

**Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code sections 421.14 and 422.68, the Department of Revenue hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 71, “Assessment Practices and Equalization,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Rule 701—71.1(405,427A,428,441,499B) provides for limitations on housing developments’ tax status and assessment of platted lots. Under the proposed amendments, the time frames associated with assessment of subdivided property are modified. The length of the modified time frames depends on numerous factors.

These amendments are proposed as a result of changes to Iowa Code sections 405.1 and 441.72 as amended by 2011 Iowa Acts, Senate File 533, sections 154 and 155.

Item 1 rescinds subrule 71.1(8) and adopts new subrule 71.1(8) to conform with 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1.

Item 2 adopts new subrule 71.1(9) to conform with 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 441.72.

The proposed amendments will not necessitate additional expenditures by political subdivisions or agencies and entities which contract with political subdivisions.

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of these amendments would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

The Department has determined that these proposed amendments may have an impact on small business. The Department has considered the factors listed in Iowa Code section 17A.4A. The Department will issue a regulatory analysis as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4A if a written request is filed by delivery or by mailing postmarked no later than September 24, 2012, to the Policy Section, Taxpayer Services and Policy Division, Department of Revenue, Hoover State Office Building, P.O. Box 10457, Des Moines, Iowa 50306. The request may be made by the Administrative Rules Review Committee, the Administrative Rules Coordinator, at least 25 persons signing that request who each qualify as a small business, or an organization representing at least 25 such persons.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on these proposed amendments on or before September 11, 2012. Such written comments should be directed to the Policy Section, Taxpayer Services and Policy Division, Department of Revenue, Hoover State Office Building, P.O. Box 10457, Des Moines, Iowa 50306.

Persons who want to convey their views orally should contact the Policy Section, Taxpayer Services and Policy Division, Department of Revenue, at (515)281-8036 or at the Department of Revenue offices on the fourth floor of the Hoover State Office Building.

Requests for a public hearing must be received by September 11, 2012.

After analysis and review of this rule making, the Department has determined the proposed amendments will not have an impact on jobs.

These amendments are intended to implement 2011 Iowa Code Supplement sections 405.1 and 441.72.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Rescind subrule 71.1(8) and adopt the following new subrule in lieu thereof:

**71.1(8) Housing development property.**

*a. Ordinances adopted or amended on or after January 1, 2011.*

(1) Adoption of ordinance by board of supervisors. A county board of supervisors may adopt an ordinance providing that property acquired and subdivided for development of housing on or after January 1, 2011, shall continue to be assessed for taxation in the manner it was assessed prior to the acquisition. Each lot shall continue to be taxed in the manner it was taxed prior to acquisition for housing until the lot is sold for construction or occupancy of housing or 5 years from the date of subdivision, whichever occurs first.

(2) Amendments to ordinance by board of supervisors. On or after July 27, 2011, the board of supervisors of a county may amend an ordinance adopted or otherwise made effective under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(1) "a" to extend the 5-year time period for a period of time not to exceed 5 years beyond the end of the original 5-year period established under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(1). Thus, the maximum special assessment time for ordinances adopted on or subsequent to January 1, 2011, is 10 years. An extension of an ordinance under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(1) "a" may apply to all or a portion of the property that was subject to the original ordinance.

(3) Amendments to ordinance by city council. A city council may adopt an ordinance, affecting all or a portion of the property located within the incorporated area of the city subject to the county ordinance adopted under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(1) "a," extending the county ordinance not previously extended by the board of supervisors up to 5 years. An ordinance by a city council providing for an extension under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(3) shall be subject to the 5-year limitation under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(2). Thus, the maximum time to appeal an ordinance adopted on or subsequent to January 1, 2011, is 10 years if the city council amends an ordinance originally adopted by the county board of supervisors.

(4) Sale of lot; expiration of 5-year or extended period. Upon the sale of the lot for construction or occupancy for housing or upon the expiration of the 5-year or extended period, the property shall be assessed for taxation as residential or commercial multifamily property, whichever is applicable.

(5) Definition of "subdivide." As used in both paragraphs 71.1(8) "a" and "b," "subdivide" means to divide a tract of land into three or more lots.

*b. Ordinances adopted on or after January 1, 2004, but prior to January 1, 2011.*

(1) Ordinances adopted under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement sections 405.1(1) and 405.1(2), to the extent such ordinances affect the assessment of property subdivided for development of housing on or after January 1, 2004, but before January 1, 2011, shall remain in effect or otherwise be made effective, and such ordinances:

1. Adopted under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(1), applicable to counties with a population of less than 20,000, shall be extended, from a period of 5 years, to apply to a period of 10 years from the date of subdivision.

2. Adopted under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(2), applicable to counties with a population of 20,000 or more, shall be extended, from a period of 3 years, to apply to a period of 8 years from the date of subdivision.

Each lot shall continue to be taxed in the manner it was taxed prior to acquisition for housing until the lot is sold for construction or occupancy of housing, or 10 years pursuant to paragraph "1" above or 8 years pursuant to paragraph "2" above (or the extended period, if applicable) from the date of subdivision, whichever occurs first.

(2) Amendments to ordinance by board of supervisors. On or after July 27, 2011, the board of supervisors of a county may amend an ordinance adopted under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(1) or 405.1(2) to extend the 10- and 8-year periods, respectively, for a period of time not to exceed 5 years beyond the end of the 10- and 8-year periods established under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(1) "b." Thus, the maximum special assessment time for ordinances adopted on or after January 1, 2004, but prior to January 1, 2011, for counties with a population of less than 20,000 shall be 15 years. For counties with a population of 20,000 or more, the maximum shall be 13 years.

(3) Amendments to ordinance by city council. A city council may adopt an ordinance, affecting all or a portion of the property located within the incorporated area of the city subject to the county ordinance adopted under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement sections 405.1(1) and 405.1(2), extending the county ordinances not previously extended by the board of supervisors up to 5 years. An ordinance by

a city council providing for an extension under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(3) shall be subject to the 5-year limitation under 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 405.1(2). Thus, the maximum time to appeal an ordinance adopted on or after January 1, 2004, but prior to January 1, 2011, for counties with a population of less than 20,000 shall be 15 years if the city council amends an ordinance originally adopted by the board of supervisors. For counties with a population of 20,000 or more, the maximum special assessment time shall be 13 years.

(4) Sale of lot. Upon the sale of the lot for construction or occupancy for housing or upon the expiration of the 10- or 8-year or extended period, the property shall be assessed for taxation as residential or commercial multifamily property, whichever is applicable.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** subrule 71.1(9):

**71.1(9) *Assessment of platted lots.***

a. When a subdivision plat is recorded pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 354 on or after January 1, 2011, the individual lots within the subdivision plat shall not be assessed, in the aggregate, in excess of the total assessment of the land as acreage or unimproved property for 5 years after the recording of the plat or until the lot is actually improved with permanent construction, whichever occurs first. When an individual lot has been improved with permanent construction, the lot shall be assessed for taxation purposes as provided in Iowa Code chapters 428 and 441.

b. For subdivision plats recorded pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 354 (relating to division and subdivision of land) on or after January 1, 2004, but before January 1, 2011, the individual lots within the subdivision plat shall not be assessed, in the aggregate, in excess of the total assessment of the land as acreage or unimproved property for 8 years after the recording of the plat or until the lot is actually improved with permanent construction, whichever occurs first. When an individual lot has been improved with permanent construction, the lot shall be assessed for taxation purposes as provided in Iowa Code chapters 428 and 441.

c. 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 441.72 does not apply to special assessment levies.